3/7/70

Dear Art,

Thanks for the return of my carbons on Bonner. Neither she nor her publisher nor the distributor have responded. I didn't expect them to, but I did want to make a record. One of my Dallas friends, a woman, said my reference to prettier also doesn't apply -she's not that, either.

I've called you several time so I could background you and so you could tape, subject to release, because I think we are close to filing the first suit against the government. It may be this coming week. If it is, I'll have a press conference on it. However, as soon as it is over, I'll phone you. That is, as soon as I can get to a free phone.

I agree with your hunch on the Shaw case. It doesn't make sense unless there are things that do not meet the eye. I've sent a memo to a few of those still working going into this. It is my suspicion someone is backing this, because on the face of it, with the history, there is no case without a showing of deliberate malice, and the only possible witnesses are those who themselves face prosecution, so no reasonable court will accept them.

There have been several indication that Jim has something on Shaw he didn't use. I do not know what it is, unless it is something I gave him and I think they just ingored or forgot about, but it would have been ruinous had they used it against him while he was on the stand. There is also the possibility he had witnesses reluctant to testify in a conspiracy case who will be less reluctant in a perjury or damage case. I understand this to be the case.

The timing of the Shaw suit fascinates me. They seem to have entered a civil action against some John Does. I've never heard of that. Bit I know of this only what has appeared in the N.O. papers. And I doubt JG spent any T&C money on Shaw. We know so well how he spent it! Why the great haste? Unless it may bear on the remaining prosecutions. It roughly coincides with when the Thornley case was dues and there is, of course, the Shaw case, with its inadequate indictment.

The Bringuier book, which I've just finished, is incredible even if your know this incredible animation. He is known to rational Cubans as The Stupidity. To call him insane is to defame the ill. There is also one due on the Ruby girls. Nothing solid can get into print. The aura of NO linger like Dondora. Joe Dolan asked me to do his show two days ago. He was reluctant and spelled it out. He finally said we'd do a half hour, if it went real well an hour. I know the format of that show, having done his with him and that one when Owen did it. Well, it kinda swung, and we did the whole three. The first one I've done on Ray/King. I'd planned none until after the suit was filed (and I didn't mention that), but I am in Joe's debt, from 1966. I think it was quite something, but there's been no time for mail. I think this and the coming suits may provide us the means of recapturing our respectebility...You cannot begin to imagine what I have now, including what even the Commission didn't have. My friendly contacts with "the other side" are also expanding, with good results... Best regards to everyone. When you are in tocuh with Jim, hello him for me and ask him to give one to Bob Scott.

Sincerely,